

REMARKS

A new independent claim 27 and new dependent claims 28 – 33 ultimately depending from new independent claim 27 have been added. Claims 13 – 17 and 19 – 33 are currently pending in the application.

In the Office Action, claims 13-17 and 19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang et al US Patent No. 5,788,564 in view of Keiji JP 6-272925. Also, in the Office Action, claims 25 and 26 are rejected but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

With regard to the rejection of claims 13-17 and 19-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

Claim 13 of the present application recites a housing for an extractor hood. The housing includes at least one ventilator container for containing therein a ventilator device operable to impart motion to steam and other gaseous fluid. Also, the housing serves as a housing for at least part of the ventilator container and the housing is operable for receiving and guiding steam and other gaseous fluid to the ventilator container. The ventilator container is arranged at least partly in the housing and one section of an external wall of the housing is formed by a portion of the ventilator container. The housing includes two side walls, at least one of the side walls has a bent region at its upper edge, and the bent region of the side wall forms a section of the top of the housing and the bent region of the side wall is in engagement with at least one region of the ventilator container via a form-locking connection.

Chang US Patent No. 5,788,565 discloses, in Figure 3 thereof, a funnel body 22 having a smoke exhausting device 21 mounted relative thereto such that the smoke exhausting device 21 forms a portion of an external wall [the top wall] of the funnel body 22.

Keiji JP 6-272925 discloses a range hood (A).

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Chang US Patent No. 5,788,565 nor Keiji JP 6-272925 teach or suggest all of the elements recited by independent claim 13. For example, neither Chang US Patent No. 5,788,565 nor Keiji JP 6-272925 teach or suggest a housing includes two side walls, at least one of the side walls having a bent region at its upper edge, and the bent region of the side wall forming a section of the top of the housing and the bent region of the side wall being in engagement with at least one region of the ventilator container via a form-locking connection.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 13 – 17 and 19 – 33.

Respectfully submitted,



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